

Denver, Colorado, Nov. 12th, 1898.

Hon. Wm. McKinley,

President of U. S. Washington, D. C.

Your Honor:-

I am a representative of the negro race which I am very proud of and feel not the least embarrassed in making this appeal to your honor. My race stands loyal to this government and to the Stars and Stripes. When the call came for the negro to pick up arms and go and face a foreign foe, leaving their own country, wives and children, they never faltered but went willingly to the field of battle and have shown to the world that they were no cowards, but fighters and loyal to this government and while these black boys were at Santiago – and some are there yet making a great record for themselves and their race – what is this country in the South doing for their brothers. Is it possible we must leave our homes and go and fight a foreign foe and not get any protection at home by the government we are defending? We see at Wilmington, N. C. and Greenwood, S. C. the negroes shot down like dogs and deprived of the right of ballot. We mourn the loss of our brothers, and appeal to your honor for protection. We feel that it is unjust and inhuman to our people to be treated in this manner.

The manner the negro is treated and deprived of his privileges is only a question of time how long he will be loyal to his government. The outrages of the negro in the South if left to continue will spread to the North and West, and then what is left for us to do but prove disloyal to our government.

In the name of God and humanity lend us a helping hand! Give us some protection or one kind word through the press.

Most respectfully,

Harry Jones,

1223 – 19th St.,

Denver, Colo.